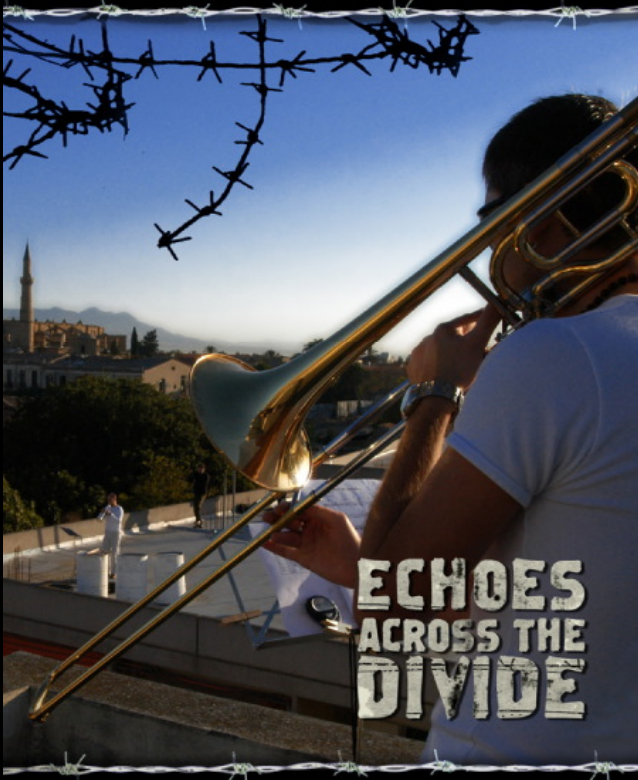


In the world's last divided capital
music knows no borders.



Website portal & Study Guide Downloads:
<http://echoesacrossthedivide.googlepages.com/>

SYNOPSIS

IN NICOSIA, THE WORLD'S LAST DIVIDED CAPITAL, Turkish & Greek Cypriots attempt to bridge no-man's-land with a performance like no other.

The film follows their unconventional rehearsals in the UN Headquarters on the island – and joins their search for instruments from Nicosia's war detritus - as they prepare for Dutch composer Merlijn Twaalfhoven's outdoor music project, "Long Distance Call".

Together both sides aim to perform it across no-man's-land from the streets, balconies and rooftops of this beautiful old Venetian town.

Through the performers we come to understand what it means to grow up in an island divided by hatred, minefields, and the infamous "Green Line" that bisects their country by as little as 3 metres of barbed wire.

The concert is held on UN Day in the world

Cyprus: Echoes Across the Divide

Αντίλαλοι από την Άλλη Πλευρά
Sınır Ötesi Yankılar

PRESS KIT

Director: Adam Sèbire
Producers: Janneke Robers & Adam Sèbire
Composer: Merlijn Twaalfhoven
Featuring: Michael Hajimichael, Brian Kelly, Elena Christodoulidou, Zeki Ali.
Duration: 52'00" Vérité Documentary
(Arts/Politics/Society/Mid. East)
Languages: English, Dutch, Greek & Turkish language with English subtitles.
Textless master available.
Filmed on: HDV 1080i50
Completed: 12 October 2006
Formats: PAL HDCAM • PAL DigiBeta
PAL BetacamSP • PAL & NTSC DVD-R with Dolby 5.1 Surround • Other formats on request

body's 60th year: for the first time they allow a camera access to the decaying buffer zone that divides the old town. It is a site frozen in time.

At dusk the musicians create a symbolic bridge of sound with a historic 'combined' performance from both sides - before an unexpected finale in the middle of no-man's-land.

Link to [trailer](#) (66"). Link to [opening](#) (2'14").
Link to [prod'n stills](#). (Low res. High res on request.)



SALES & DISTRIBUTION CONTACT

Adam Sebire (Director/Producer)
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Australia +61 2 9241 6168
www.adamsebire.info
adamsebire@gmail.com

DIRECTOR'S INTENTION

I'd wanted to make a film about how music had no regard for borders, nor other artificialities that divide peoples. Pairing up with Merlijn's "Long Distance Call" project narrowed my focus to a microcosm within the beautiful Venetian walls of Old Nicosia; its natural soundscape, especially the Mu-ezzin's *Azan* and the rumble and bells of Orthodox Christianity - both floating freely across no-man's-land. Merlijn's composition overlays the town with music made by locals and draws on spatial and physical elements of both the town and the events of 1974. Geography, history, politics and musicology were wrapped with an aesthetic bow which soon unravelled to reveal powerful emotions and humanity in this tragic, unique place.

BIOGRAPHIES

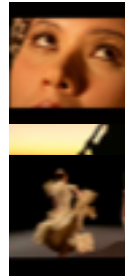
ADAM SÈBIRE (director/camera/editor/producer)



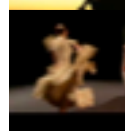
was born in Melbourne in 1970. He studied documentary filmmaking at the Cuban

International Film School (EICTV). When not making arts documentaries for SBS Television in Australia, Adam can be found behind a trombone in pit orchestras, or working casually at the Sydney Opera House. Adam's other films include:

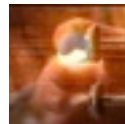
• **Peter Sculthorpe's "Sydney Singing"** Apr 2004 (SBS TV)



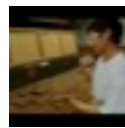
• **Le Violoncelle**
Mar 2004 (NSW Film & TV Office)



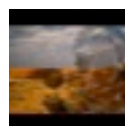
• **Themes, Variations & Fusions: the Music of Spain** Jan '04(SBS)



• **The Russian Enigma**
Jul 2001 (SBS TV)



• **¿Cuántos Colores?**
Jan 1999 (EICTV)



• **Technomad**
Dec 1998 (AFTRS)

Composer **MERLIJN TWAALFHOVEN**



(b.1976) and his foundation, La Vie sur Terre organise unusual and often large-scale projects

which immerse a wide public in an experience for all the senses. In unique locations as diverse as harbours, sand-dunes, and UN buffer zones, classical musicians work together with performers such as farmer bands, DJs, children, chefs and hair

dressers. Merlijn's compositions find inspiration in archaic and non-Western music, and in which a balance between the vital sounds of nature and refined melodies offer a multi-faceted sound palette. His works have been performed by orchestras in the Netherlands, Japan, Belgium and Switzerland, & have been awarded several prizes.

Visit <http://www.twaalfhoven.net>

SCREENINGS

The film had premières at the United Nations HQ in New York on 8 November 2006, and in the UN Protected Area of Nicosia (the old abandoned airport) on 24 November 2006. In June '07 it screened in competition at the prestigious Message to Man Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia. And a rough cut "work-in-progress" was



shown during the Vrede van Utrecht (Peace of Utrecht) Festival in Holland. We are optimistic that it may yet be the first programme about the Cyprus problem to be shown to TV audiences in both the north and south of the island. Both ABC TV in Australia and Al Jazeera International have purchased the documentary for broadcast in 2008.

OF INTEREST TO PRESS/MEDIA

The situation in Cyprus is finally changing after 35 years of stasis. One month after the musicians in this film made their protest across the wall that divides Central Nicosia (24 Oct 2005), the northern side of the wall was torn down by Turkish Cypriot authorities. Little more happened for two years, until a change of government in the Republic of Cyprus in early 2008. Suddenly, on 3 April 2008, the remainder of the southernmost wall and guardpost that had cut off Ledra St - the capital's main north-south axis - was removed. Link: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/04/03/europe/EU-GEN-Cyprus-Ledra-Street.php> For the first time in over 40 years, Turkish and Greek Cypriots are able to cross through the centre of their capital - albeit only at one point, and only after ID checks.

The composer and filmmaker have now turned their attentions to a musical project across Israel's "separation barrier" - the wall that newly divides Palestinians and Israelis. As fast as some walls come down it seems, others are built...

Both director ADAM SÈBIRE and composer MERLIJN TWAALFHOVEN are available for interview.

STUDY GUIDE

A study guide is being produced. Download it from the [website](#).

POST-PRODUCTION SCRIPT

A post-production script of the complete dialogue & titles is available in English on request. adamsebire@gmail.com

QUOTES

"The first documentary about the Cyprus problem that represents people rather than political ideologies and divides."

- Michael Hajimichael, Cypriot Rap-Artist.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Long Distance Call, 24 October 2005

was produced by

Stichting La Vie Sur Terre

Merlijn Twaalfhoven

Janneke Robers

Martin Franke

Tanyel Cemal

Hatice Kerimgil

Composer / Creator

Merlijn Twaalfhoven

With many thanks to:-

Australian High Commission, Nicosia

UNFICYP

Brian Kelly

Major Mark Ross (12th Reg. Royal Artillery)

Anne Bursey • Captain Stefan Zemanovič

Cpt Paul Britton • Master Sgt Adrian Artimovič

Col Speedie (UNPOL) • Anita Thomas

UNDP

Christopher Louise

Andrew Russell • Halil Güresun

Pelin Maneoğlu • Katerina Yennari

University of Cyprus

Nopi Nikolaou-Telemachou

Nancy Petridou • Maria Rivera

Omeriye Hamam

Shopkeepers and Residents of Ledra Street

Sabor Restaurant, Lefkoşa

Dina Wilde (Action Cyprus)

Press and Information Office (PIO)

BRT TV

Hüseyin Gürşan

Can Gazi • Hatice Karabulut

Eralp, Firuz, Çemal, Cünyet, Kemal

Choirs

Bi-communal Choir

Kıbrıs Havaları Topluluğu

Polifonik Koro

Polyfonia Chamber Choir

CyBC TV

Chryso Constantinidou

Yeliz Shukri

Students & Teachers of

9 Eylül İlkokulu

Archiepiskopou Makarios 3

Atlex Sanverler Ortaokulu

Bayraktar Türk Maarif Koleji

Girne American school

Highgate school

The English School

University of Cyprus

The Weaving Mill, Nicosia

Leontius Gerasimou • Soteria Gerasimou

In Australia

Michael Christodoulou • Garth Hunt

Tümer Mimi • Patricia Thomson

Peter Mina • Jim Short

SBS Radio & Television Youth Orchestra

Røde Microphones, Sydney

In The Netherlands

Claartje Schouwenaar

Mandy Kemper • Marieke Peters

Quirine van de Linde

Vrede van Utrecht

Han Bakker • Meinke Noordam • Petra Orthel

Ahmet Elmas • Ayşen Barışsal

Bérangère Blondeau • Catherine Barron

Eian Ranan • Erkan Dağlı

Elena Christodoulidou • Emlyn Lewis-Jones

Garth Hunt • Gay Rosenblum-Kumar

Gürhan Sonero Öncal • Harry Theohares

Hasan Karaüzüm • Hatice Kerimgil

Jacques Sips • Juliette Dickstein

Karren Sebire • Alfred Sebire

Kristian Theochari • Larkos Larkou

Lena Melanidou • Lucas Andreou

Maxine Baker • Michael Hajimichael

Miriam Butler • Mustafa Kofalı

Mustafa Özak • Nadir Aydın

Nina Logachova • Öskay Hoca

Paul Ljalin • Pete Showell

Petros Hristodulidis • Selçuk Garanti

Selimiye Mosque, Lefkoşa • Sezgi Yalin

Symis Shukuroğlu & his Rembetiko musicians

Tabitha Morgan • Tanyel Cemal

Xenaphon, Andreas, and Mette

Yeliz Shukri • Zeki Ali

ORGANON Middle East

INTERVET Middle East

All the singers, instrumentalists and dancers...

and the people of Nicosia, Cyprus

Maps, Stills & Archival Provided by

Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia
John Hinde Studios (photographer E.Nägele)
Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation

End Titles Music

Büyükkonuk Belediyesi Halk Dansları Grubu

Dutch Translations

Mandy Kemper • Janneke Robers
Martin Franke

Greek Translations

Maria Pierou • Georgia Pierou

Turkish Translations

Deniz Sütçü Türem
Hatice Kerimgil • Bahire Kalfaoğlu

Additional Crew (performance)

Stephen Nugent
Costas Constantinou
Miriam Butler
Crewhouse Television
Shane McDonald • David Hands

Production Stills

[Labkhand Olfatmanesh](#)
Laura Boushnak

Titles & Graphics

Fiona Haines

Audio Post-Production

John Dennison (liaison)
Danny Longhurst (tracklay)
Tony Vaccher (mix)
Audioloc, Sydney

Online & Grade

Jacob Southall - 2 Dogs Post, Sydney

Consultant Editor

Ray Thomas

Produced by

Janneke Robers (Netherlands)
Adam Sèbire (Australia)

Directed, Edited & Filmed by

[Adam Sèbire](#)

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